

**EPA INVITES U.S.-MEXICO BORDER TRIBAL OFFICIALS
TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS
TO SERVE ON PRESIDENTIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

11/1/07

SUMMARY: This announcement applies to members of U.S. tribal nations whose land lies within the U.S.-Mexico border region: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) invites members of these tribes to apply to fill a vacancy on a Presidential advisory committee named the Good Neighbor Environmental Board. The term of the current tribal representative will be completed shortly, and EPA seeks a successor. Nominees are requested to submit their applications by December 15, 2007.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Good Neighbor Environmental Board was created by the Enterprise for the Americas Initiative Act of 1992. Under Executive Order 12916, implementation authority is delegated to the Administrator of EPA. The Board is responsible for providing advice to the President and Congress on environmental and infrastructure issues and needs within the states contiguous to Mexico. The statute calls for the Board to have representatives from U.S. government agencies; the states of Arizona, California, New Mexico and Texas; local government; tribes; and a variety of non-governmental officials including the private sector; academic officials; environmental group representatives; health groups; ranching and grazing interests; and other relevant sectors. The Board meets twice each calendar year at various locations along the U.S.-Mexico border, and once in Washington, DC. The average workload for Board members is approximately 10 to 15 hours per month. Members serve on the Board in a voluntary capacity. However, EPA provides reimbursement for travel expenses associated with official government business.

Since the Board's inception, the following border tribal officials have served as members: Kenneth Williams, Tohono O'odham Nation (1994-1997); Mark Sixkiller Ayuvoo, Pala Band of Mission Indians (1999-2001); Dale Phillips, Cocopah Tribe (2000-2003); and Ned Norris, Tohono O'odham Nation (2004-2007).

Nominees for the current vacancy will be considered according to the mandates of the Federal Advisory Committee Act. More specifically, the following criteria will be used to evaluate nominees:

- Senior official of a U.S. tribe whose land lies along the U.S.-Mexico border;
- Extensive professional knowledge of the unique environmental and infrastructure issues that tribes face in the region, including the bi-national dimension of these issues;
- Demonstrated ability to work in a consensus building process with a wide range of experts from diverse constituencies;
- Ability to volunteer approximately 10 to 15 hours per month to the Board's activities; and
- Ability to conduct outreach to all 26 U.S. border tribes and incorporate their input into the Board's annual report to the President and Congress.

Nominations must include a cover letter and a resume describing the professional and educational qualifications of the nominee, as well as the nominee's current business address, e-

mail address, and daytime telephone number. Interested candidates may self-nominate. A letter of reference may accompany the nomination, but is not necessary.

ADDRESSES: Submit nominations to: Elaine Koerner, Designated Federal Officer, Office of Cooperative Environmental Management, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (1601-M), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20460. Please also e-mail nominations to koerner.elaine@epa.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Elaine Koerner, Designated Federal Officer, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (1601-M), Washington, DC 20460; telephone (202) 564-2586; fax (202) 564- 8129; e-mail koerner.elaine@epa.gov.